V	V	E	E	K	- 1



# **A Victory Celebration**

Dave Hicks August 1 & 2, 2009

The Bible tells us:

"Death has been swallowed up in **victory**...[God] gives us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ." *1 Corinthians 15:54b,57* (NIV)

# As we worship and serve Communion today...

## 1. God wants you to know that Communion is a

"There is no difference, for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God, and are **justified freely** by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to **demonstrate**..." *Romans* 3:22b-25

"God **demonstrates his own love for us in this**: While we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us." *Romans* 5:8

#### 2. God wants you to know that Communion is a

"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you **free**." *John 8:31b-32* 

"If the Son sets you free, **you will be free indeed**." *John 8:36* 

"It is for **freedom** that Christ has set us **free**. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a **yoke of slavery**." *Galatians 5:1* 

How can this day be one of LIBERATION for me?

A	
В	*You gotta read this! Genesis 40
C	•

#### 3. God wants you to know that Communion is a

"This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall **celebrate** it as a festival to the Lord." *Exodus* 12:14



**Daily Meditations** 

Take a few minutes every day to read Scripture, pray, and answer some thought-provoking questions pertaining to this week's topic.

## Monday

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:54-57. How does this passage encourage you today?

What struck you about the study of communion this weekend?

Recall the first time you took communion? What did it mean to you then? What does it mean to you now?

Thank God today for the sacrifice that Jesus made for you on the cross. Thank Him for the reminder of communion. Pray that you'll grow in your understanding of communion and that it will grow in meaning for you.

## **Tuesday**

Please read Romans 3:23-25 and Romans 5:8. I love these verses! When I was growing up I knew Romans 3:23 but I never followed it up with Romans 3:24. Together they paint such a great picture of God's love. What do these verses tell you about God's love for you?

Soak in these verses for at least five minutes today. Read them slowly, think about the words, and pray through them. What does it mean to you that God has demonstrated His love for you?

Thank God for His great love for you!

## Wednesday

Please read John 8:31-36 and Galatians 5:1. What doe these verses tell you about your freedom in Christ?

What connection does freedom in Christ and communion have for you?

Answer the question we asked in last weekend's sermon: How can this day be one of liberation for you?

Thank God today that you are free in Him. Pray that you'll remember that when you're feeling trapped or weighed down by life.

#### **Thursday**

Please read Exodus 12:14. Why do you think God wants communion to be a celebration?

How does that impact your view of communion?

What other reasons has God recently given you to celebrate?

Thank God today for many reasons He's given you to celebrate. Ask Him to remind you of His love for you throughout the day. Pray that you'll live a life of joy.

## **Friday**

Please read Psalm 100. How does it encourage you to know that "He (God) made you and you are his"?

In what area of your life are you struggling to say, "... The Lord is good"? How can you apply what you've studied this week about communion to help you in that area?

Thanks God today for His intimate knowledge of you. Thank Him for the joy He has given you. Pray that you'll bask in His love and grace and reflect that to the people in your life.

## Saturday

Please read Psalm 103. Write down four things from this psalm that encourage you today:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving to God for His love, mercy and forgiveness. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that God will be glorified. Pray for our guest speaker Bill and for our worship leader Karen. Please pray that God will strengthen and grow our church through the summer months.



"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we still sinners, Christ died for us." *Romans* 5:8 (NIV)